

Message Text

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ACTION AID-31

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9154

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY OSCI EG

SUBJECT: FAITH AND HOPE SOCIETY

1. GARIN (AMIMPEX) CALLED A/DCM DURING NIGHT SEPT 23 TO INDICATE L/C HAD BEEN CHANGED, BUT IN SUCH FASHION AS TO PRECLUDE HIM FROM MOVING FORWARD WITH SHIPMENT OF EQUIPMENT FOR HOSPITAL. GARIN SAID L/C NOW CALLED FOR SHIPMENT TO BE HANDLED CIF INSTEAD OF FOB. THERE IS ALSO NO PROVISION FOR SEA SHIPMENT OF CERTAIN LARGE ITEMS HOSNY HAD AGREED TO SEND BY SEA NOR IS THERE A 60-DAY EXTENSION TO ENABLE SUCH DELIVERY.

2. CHANGED L/C CITED TWA AS AIR-CARRIER. GARIN COMPLAINED THAT AFTER CONTINUED DELAYS AND CHANGES IN SCHEDULING REQUESTS, TWA HAD SIMPLY WASHED ITS HANDS OF THE OPERATION. HE NOW THINKS HE HAS COMMITMENT FROM SEABOARD WORLD AIRLINES TO FLY THE EQUIPMENT. GARIN ELABORATED THAT HE HAD REQUESTED A COUPLE OF MINOR CHANGES AND NOW HAS ALTERED L/C WHICH BINDS HIS HANDS AND MAKES SHIPMENT IMPOSSIBLE. GARIN SEEMED VERY CONCERNED AND FEELING VERY MUCH UNDER PRESSURE TO MEET AN OCT 6, DEADLINE (SINCE BY HOSNY'S WISHES HE HAS NOT BEEN INFORMED OF DELAY IN CENTER OPENING).

3. A/DCM CALLED HOSNY SEPT 24 AND CONVEYED TO HIM GARIN'S MESSAGE. HOSNY WAS IRRITATED AND KEPT SAYING GARIN HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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REQUESTED CHANGES AND HAD DRAFTED ORIGINAL L/C HIMSELF.

HE FELT GARIN SHOULD COME TO CAIRO TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THE MATTER. HE INSISTED THAT GARIN WAS CONTINUALLY MAKING CHANGES TO SUIT HIMSELF, PURPOSELY BEING IMPRECISE, WHEN ON THE OTHER HAND, EGYPTIANS DID NOT WANT THE MATTER HANDLED IN LOOSE FASHION BUT IN VERY BUSINESSLIKE MANNER.

4. HOSNY HAS NOW REQUESTED WE CONVEY TO GARIN: (A) THAT HE SEND TELEX TO HOSNY EXPLAINING SITUATION AND EXACTLY WHAT IS NEEDED. HOSNY SAYS HE NEEDS DOCUMENTATION WITH WHICH TO WORK WITH MINISTER OSMAN'S OFFICE. "HE IS NOT A FINANCIAL EXPERT AND DOES NOT UNDERSTAND THESE MATTERS"; (B) THAT GARIN BE INFORMED HE HAS "A WEEK OR TWO MORE TIME, SINCE CENTER OPENING HAS BEEN POSTPONED A BIT". HOWEVER, HOSNY WISHES TO KEEP PRESSURE ON GARIN TO DO EVERYTHING HE CAN DO TO EXPEDITE SHIPMENT.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPT CONVEYING INFORMATION PARA 4 TO GARIN. SITUATION NOW (DESPITE EFFORTS TO SMOOTH RUFFLED FEATHERS ON BOTH SIDES AND TO ENCOURAGE CONTINUED COOPERATION) IS AT A POINT WHERE GARIN IN EXASPERATION MIGHT NOT FEEL LIKE CARRYING ON WITH THE PROJECT. HOSNY, ON THE OTHER HAND, FEELS THAT GARIN IS PLAYING A BIT FAST AND LOOSE. HE IS NOT SENSITIVE TO FACT THAT GARIN MAY WELL OPT OUT OF THE OPERATION WITH RESULTS THAT COULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR ALL CONCERNED. EMBASSY WILL TRY TO DO WHAT IT CAN TO KEEP MATTERS ON THE TRACK HERE AND WILL BE GRATEFUL FOR DEPT'S CONTINUED VALUABLE ASSISTANCE. HOPEFULLY TIME WILL COME WHEN WE CAN ALL BREATHE A SIGH OF RELIEF AS HOSPITAL OPENS WITH EQUIPMENT IN PLACE. AT THAT TIME WE ALL WILL HAVE EARNED A RESPITE.
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